

REMARKS

Claims 15-27 are all the claims pending in the application. The Examiner rejects claims 19-27 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Houkes (US 4,568,859). Claims 15-18 are allowed.

Applicants amend claim 19 and add claim 28.

102(b) Rejections

Houke Reference

"A claim is anticipated only if each and every element as set forth in the claim is found, either expressly or inherently described, in a single prior art reference." *Verdegaal Bros. v. Union Oil Co. of California*, 814 F.2d 628, 631, 2 USPQ2d 1051, 1053 (Fed. Cir. 1987). See, MPEP 2131.

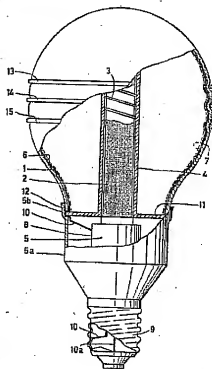
The present invention is related to a plasma lighting device (bulb) having an embedded metallic screen to shield electromagnetic radiation from escaping the bulb. The screen is formed of metal wire imbedded in grooves formed on one surface of the bulb, and the grooves forms patterns on the surface of the bulb. The formed patterns may be circular or polygonal. The grooves are formed having a cross-section that reflects light away from the metallic screen so that the effective luminance is maintained.

Claim 19

Houkes relates to a gas and/or vapor discharge lamp having a glass lamp vessel which is sealed in a vacuum-tight manner and which is filled with a metal vapor and a rare gas, and more particularly to such a lamp which is intended to be operated with a high-frequency supply voltage. An electric discharge is produced in the lamp envelope, and a transparent conductive layer is placed around a wall surface to surround the discharge.

In one embodiment of the lamp, metal rings (for example three to five) are arranged to completely surround the discharge. In this case, interference currents, which are induced at the conductors of the supply mains due to the presence of a magnetic field, are strongly reduced. The metal rings are constructed as layers having a width of a few mms and a thickness of, for example, 100 μ m, which are applied to the outer wall surface of the lamp vessel, for example, by spraying. Preferably, the rings are constructed as metal wires which are located in grooves provided in the outer wall surface of the lamp envelope. It has been found that the screening of the magnetic field is then sufficiently effective.

As shown in Houkes' drawing (reproduced below), three copper rings are provided around the lamp vessel at the height of the induction coil, which surround the discharge and are located in grooves provided especially for this purpose in the outer wall of the lamp envelope. Houke does not describe the shape or relative size of the areas formed within the grooves, other than that illustrated in the drawing.



Claim 19 is amended to recite the limitation "wherein the plurality of grooves forms a plurality of polygon patterns." Houkes teaches that only rings in grooves are formed on the outer wall of the lamp envelope, but not that the areas circumscribed by the grooves are of any particular shape. As illustrated, the areas circumscribed by Houkes' rings are not polygons. Claim 19 requires that grooves form polygons, a limitation not taught or reasonably suggested by Houkes.

Applicants believe, in view of this amendment and remarks, claim 19 is not anticipated by Houkes, and respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection. Applicants believe that claim 19 is allowable over Houkes as are all claims dependent therefrom.

Dependent claims 20-27

Each of the above listed dependent claims depends from a now allowable independent claim and is therefore allowable for at least this reason. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections.

New claim 28

New claim 28 recites the limitation that each "wherein each of the plurality of patterns is the same size as that of adjacent patterns." In other words, the patterns formed by the grooves are regular with respect to each other. As shown in Houkes' drawing, three parallel grooves are formed on the bulb, and the sizes of the areas formed by the grooves are different (the surface of the bulb is not of a uniform diameter in the region of the grooves.) Therefore, Houkes does not teach all the limitations of claim 28, and does not anticipate claim 28. For at least this reason, applicants believe claim 28 is allowable over the cited reference.

CONCLUSION

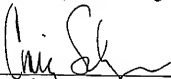
In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain at issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly invited to contact the undersigned at (213) 623-2221.

Respectfully submitted,

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By: _____



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